

Mining World

The Socorro Chieftain.

SOCORRO, SOCORRO COUNTY, N. M. THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1884.

NO. 5.

GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL.

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THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO.

Some Time-Honored Historical Fictions (Called in Question.)

The Indians were never civilized, nor even half civilized, and their condition in Mexico at the time it was invaded by Cortez, and as it is given by Prescott, is the merest fable. They had no great cities, had no large buildings, and their number has been overestimated in the most outrageous manner. It was to the interest of Cortez to make the king of Spain and the Spanish people believe he had conquered a civilized people and a numerous one.

The fact is he did nothing of the kind. He took the town which is now occupied by the City of Mexico, and found therein a considerable amount of gold, but he found no imposing edifices—no house which has stood to the present day—and a people so few in number that the handful of Spaniards and the Tlascalans, who followed him, killed them all out of hand and destroyed the town utterly. It is conceded that the Tlascalans were next in power to the Aztecs. They had, it is said, a large town, and it is not claimed that their town ever was destroyed. What has become of it? There they live to this day, improved greatly, it is true, by their contact with the whites—few in numbers—by no means rich, with no traces of an imposing city, and no signs that there ever was one. I believe that the pyramid of Cholula is a natural hill and I have been on it and all over it. That it was used as a place of sepulture I believe to be true, but was on a natural hill, on which the Indians built a square building made of bricks the size of a man's head; they also faced portions of the pyramid with the same kind of bricks.

It is true that we should begin to take a common-sense view of matters. The renowned halls of the Montezumas were nothing more than a series of mud-built houses, such as are now called adobe, poorly constructed. The conquerors wished to have their countrymen believe that they had overpowered a race of kings, as it was fashionable in those days to worship kings and potentates. But the ancient Mexican kings were a squalid race, scarcely deserving the name. The cruelty which the Spaniards manifested towards them, the wholesale robbery of them, the carrying them off as slaves, and the total absence of all principle in the treatment of the half-armed and almost totally helpless Indians, form a picture not pleasant to contemplate.

When this country was discovered it was very sparsely populated, and it is probable that there are more Indians living in North and South America today than there were when the main-

land was discovered by the Europeans. Some tribes have become extinct, while others have increased in numbers very rapidly.

What Lincoln County is Doing for the Exposition.

For the information of the public we state that Mr. J. E. Sligh has been appointed commissioner to represent Lincoln county at the New Orleans World's Exposition. As deputy, Mr. E. W. Parker will take the blue ribbon for gold ore from White Oaks district. Dr. B. A. Shapleigh will visit New Orleans for his health, and prove to the world that Nogal is a bonanza district. The lovely lovely of the Bonito, with its many rich mines, its beautiful streams and glorious surroundings will be represented by Mr. J. H. Conbrook, L. M. Clements, Esq., from long experience, as a pleader at the bar, will find no trouble in convincing capital as to our great natural resources. The Guadalupe and Sacramento mountains will not be forgotten, for the descriptive powers of A. A. Henson will be exerted to win the man with money to invest in those enchanting wilds. Mr. C. T. Clark, the superintendent of the Buck Horn mine will collect and put in place at New Orleans, an exhibit from the Gallinas district, which will excite the envy of all rival camps. The county commissioner and the deputies are all good men, now let us, as a people unitedly support them and win as we can easily do, a proud place for our county in the world's estimation. Golden Era.

Mica Mines Near Santa Fe.

Messrs. Fitzmaurice and Huffine arrived in Santa Fe yesterday from the Mica mines near Tres Piedras, about seventy-five miles North of Santa Fe. They brought with them 200 pounds of sheet mica, the product of five days labor for two men. At a low figure it will average \$5.00 per pound.

The property is owned by the Kansas City Mica Mining company and the Gurnell Mica Mining company which these gentlemen represent. It is the intention of the companies to work 400 men within a few weeks.

Mr. Fitzmaurice goes to Kansas City on business and Mr. Huffine returns to the mines with men and provisions. They expect to make Santa Fe their shipping and trading point. The property was discovered in December last, but on account of deep snow but little work could be done until within the last two months. There has been sheets of mica as large as 8x10 inches taken from the mines. This is an excellent showing for the small amount of development done.—N. M. Review.

Gold, Telluride. Opinion of an Expert.

There has been considerable talk in town for the past few days in respect to gold telluride, and a few words in respect to this one may be of interest.

It is a vein ore and is sometimes found in bodies of large size. It is extremely difficult to save it—almost impossible for the reason that it is so brittle that it breaks finer than the rest of the rock, and it is almost impossible to work it out. We do not know of any one who has ever made any money out of it, except by selling the mine. Its description is as follows:

Gravity 5.2; hardness 8; gold 28 per cent, silver 16 per cent, tellurium 56 per cent.

Lustrous metallic, clearness opaque, color white to brass yellow, feel rough, elasticity brittle, cleavage perfect, fracture uneven, texture granular to massive.

Care of Bellows.

How many bellows have been and are soiled from negligence in cold weather? They should be oiled two or three times a year to soften the leather and when not in use (over night) they should be hung up by a chain. But how many smiths or helpers hang them up over night, or when not in use during the day? How many never oil the bellows at all and leave it lying flat over night? Then on a cold winter's morning on starting the fire they give the pole a jerk and crack, crack goes the bellows and then you will likely hear some strange language about the good-for-nothing leather and what a poor bellows it is. Clean and oil your bellows before cold weather comes on.

Discovery of a Rich Silver mine.

Winnipeg, Man, May 22.—Intense excitement has been occasioned by the discovery of very rich ore in the Rabbit Mountain mine, North of Lake Superior. From time to time rich strikes have been reported, and there is no doubt that these mines are the richest in the world. Ten tons of quartz were shipped to a mill at Newark, N. J., and yielded \$5,000 per ton. The existence of the Rabbit Mountain mine was disclosed years ago to Oliver Dounais, a half-breed, by Indians.

There is being constructed in the Savage mine on the Comstock at Virginia Nevada, a bulkhead of cut stone in the north drift of the 2,600 level. The bulkhead is all of cut stone, fitted into a model representing the bulkhead, marked and then sent down into the mine. There will be a pressure gauge in the bulkhead by means of which the exact pressure of the water upon the bulkhead can at any time be determined.

If you propose to make a fortune in mining it will be necessary to give your attention just as you would any other kind of business. You cannot expect money by investigate random in trusting to luck. You must exercise common sense, investigate thoroughly be sure you are right and then go ahead.

The Ohio wool growers will ask the Wool Growers' convention to support a man for office unless he is pledged to the immediate restoration of the wool tariff of 1867. They claim that the wool growers can control 2,000,000 votes, which is the balance of power.

Our alfalfa in the Mesilla valley is out in full bloom, and our farmers are cutting the first crop. We noticed some in the field which came up to our breast and measuring it was four feet three inches by the tape line. Beat it who can.—Mesilla News.

In April the Denver & Rio Grande railroad took East to the Missouri river 3,828 pounds of Utah bluffs. This road is said to carry one-third of all the cotton produced in Utah which is sent East.

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